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Not in STC, but part 1 Dahl (Corantos) #392, which he says "might be sold separately, as it was actually a complete publication in itself" (p. 269) Only one copy recorded by Dahl, 8 items - imperfect, lacking first leaf. Sold by Archer's Corrantos are very rare.

[Oct 4, 1624]

C.2.S4 41

A WONDERFVL AND LAMENTABLE ACCIdent lately happened in the Low Countries, of a maiden through her extreme pride *perſonally deceiued by the Deuill, who afterwards ended her life moſt miſerably.*

And likewiſe what vntimely end both her Parents and her Spouſe, who was but newly *maried, came to.*

No leſſe admirable then certaine and remarkeable, eſpecially that this Kingdome of *England may hereby take example of this hainous ſinne.*

LONDON,
Printed for *Thomas Archer*, and are to be ſold at his ſhop in Popes-head alley, ouer againſt the ſigne of the Horſe-ſhooe. 1624.

A

A pitiful Relation of the miſerable end which a woman made with *her Spouſe to whom ſhee was promiſed,*

IT is manifeſt that mankinde is of its owne nature wicked and giuen to ill, reiecting all manner of good inſtructions which are made by the teachers of the Goſpell; and amongſt diuers other vices, wee perceiue by daily experience, that both the rich and poore are bent to pride, although it be repugnant to the holy Scriptures, and forbidden in the ſame. It is true, I muſt confeſſe, that many of vs reade ſometimes the Scriptures, and harken the Miniſters of the Word of God, with an intention to amend our liues; but alas, we let thoſe inſtructions more commonly paſſe through our eares as a wind that commeth at the one doore in, and flieth againe out by another doore or window: wee ſee not ſooner a wanton eye, or any other wickedneſſe, but fall againe to our former ſinne, and thinke no more vpon that which hath bin taught vnto vs. And by reaſon of this it happeneth, that God ſendeth daily many plagues vpon vs, to puniſh our ſinnes, and viſiteth vs eſpecially with warre, peſtilence and famine. Our mortall Enemy, who runneth continually as a roa-

ring Lion after vs, knowing our wicked inclinations, and that wee make too much of the flesh, seeketh to bring vs into temptations, hoping thereupon to destroy both our bodies and soules: and especially he enticeth vs to pride and vaine glorie, which are none of the lesser sins, and a net to catch vs. For we obserue daily, that many which will flie higher then their wings are able to carry them, come not onely to shame and discredit, but bring their soules also into great miseries and vexations; as amongst other examples may appeare by this following, which happened lately neere the towne of *Hoey* (lying vpon the frontiers of *Brabant*) on the person of a daughter of one *Aert Claessen* an Jnne-keeper, who dwelled without the gate of the same towne at the signe of the blacke horse, and had no other children than this daughter, of which he made therefore very much, and spared no cost to adorne her most beautifull body with such gay and rich apparell as shee required. She then being apparelled farre aboue her fathers estate, and set forth as if she were an Earles daughter, grew very proud, and despised all young men and suiters that came to see her. And it happened afterwards, that both her beautie and spightfulnesse or scorne being made knowne to the world by them which had lodged at her fathers house, some three rich Merchants of *Antwerpe* taking their way towards *Francford*, baited at her fathers house. One of them being yet a bachelor, and a very handsome man, was euen at the first sight that he had of her inflamed to loue such a rare beautie:

and

And not long afterwards, hauing at seuerall times beene a suiter vnto her, he got at last her good will, and tooke the fruits of loue vpon great oathes and promises made before hand; and went thereupon to her father to get his good liking to the mariage, and spoke in this manner: It is now come so far betwixt your daughter and me, that if it pleaseth you we shall be two soules in one bodie: the father liking the Merchant very well, said thereupon, None ought to separate them whom God hath conioyned, and therefore if God hath appointed her for you, you shall not want my good will; and added moreouer, that if he would, he might in the presence of his two friends that came with him, make the spousalls sure both by hand and mouth: He liking this motion very well, tooke presently a ring with a *Diamond* from his finger, and gaue it to her saying, Take my most beloued, & receiue my faithfull promise. This being done, her father made a fore-meale of the wedding to feast the Bridegroome (as is vsuall in those parts) and his friends. The other two Merchants hauing daily vrged the Bridegroome to dispatch his affaires about the wedding, that they might aduance their iourney; he tooke his leaue from his spouse, and went thereupon to her father and mother to doe the like, and desired them that they would take great care both for their daughter and her fruit, if she got any; and promised them againe, that at his returne from *Franckford* he would come to them backe againe, with an intention to marrie their daughter, and to

carrie her afterwards to *Antwerpe*. After his departure came many ſtrange cogitations in the minde of his deareſt, and conſidered by her ſelfe that if the young Merchant her ſpouſe came not backe againe, that ſhe ſhould be contemned, and blamed all the daies of her life, and that the people would point at her with their fingers and ſay, looke, there ſhe goeth who is now paied for her great pride and ſpitefulneſſe: But eſpecially ſhee troubled her minde, with theſe and ſuch like cogitations. When ſhe ſaw that the time was expired which he had appointed for his returne, and would not be appeaſed by her Parents, who ſought to comfort her, ſaying, Be of a good minde, doe not miſtruſt your ſpouſe, he is an honeſt man, and will ſurely come backe againe, as ſoone as his affaires will giue him leaue. She growing then daily more and more deſperate, it happened that ſhe riſing early on a Munday, put on her beſt apparell, and told to her parents with a ſmiling countenance, that ſhe had but little reſt the night before, and that ſhe conceiued in her firſt ſlumbring, that the Merchant ſhould not come backe againe; but afterwards being againe fallen into a ſlumber, her minde gaue her that ſhee ſhould ſhortly ſee her ſpouſe, and I thinke ſurely that it ſhall happen, and am therefore now reſolued to walke a little abroad to recreate my ſelfe. Going abroad ſhee went towards a wood that lay not farre from her fathers houſe, and eſpied there a young man comming to her with his rapier on his ſide, and ſhe thought that he was her ſpouſe: (But alas ſhe was mightily deceiued

ceiued, for it was the wicked ſpirit, who appeared vnto her in his ſhape and apparell) and bade him welcome with a cheerefull minde: and receiued thereupon a rich ſcarfe which hee ſaid that hee had brought with him to beſtow vpon her; and deſired thereupon that ſhee would yeeld vnto him her young and delicate bodie, for which he had longed a great while. Shee eaſily yeelding to his ſuit, went hand in hand with him towards the wood (in which ſhee yeelded afterwards the vſe of her bodie vnto him) and proteſted by the way, that in his abſence ſhee had fetcht many heauy groanes for his ſake. But hee not being contented with her body, made her alſo to yeeld her ſoule vnto him; and wrung her head from her necke, (as ſoone as ſhee had granted his requeſt) making the whole wood to tremble and ſhake: and ſo made this poore wretch a moſt miſerable end of her life, being deſtituted of the feare of God, and onely giuen to pride, vanity, and worldly care. The father, and mother, longing for the returne of their daughter, learned afterwards by a ſwineheard what was become of her, for he knew her, and had partly heard and ſeene this miſerable tragedy. They were both at the hearing of this newes much diſcomforted, and the mother fell preſently into a trance. The next day, the young Merchant comming backe againe found the Parents of his deare beloued in this heauineſſe, and asked them where ſhe was; who told him thereupon as well as they could this Hiſtorie, and told him that for his loues ſake ſhe had beene tempted and murdered by

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the Deuill: he being full of sorrow and griefe, went thereupon out of their house and hung himselfe out of a desperate minde. The Magistrate hauing heard that which was hapned, sent presently the hangman to fetch the body of the Merchant, and caused it to be hanged on a gibbet, as is there the custome of the land. Concerning her body it was buried vnder the gallowes. Her parents died likewise within the space of few daies, being not able to beare such a heauy griefe. This example may moue vs to pray to God that he will giue vs better mindes, and preserue vs from all temptation of the wicked.

Translated according to the Low Dutch copie printed at *Dordracht* by *Iohn Canin*.

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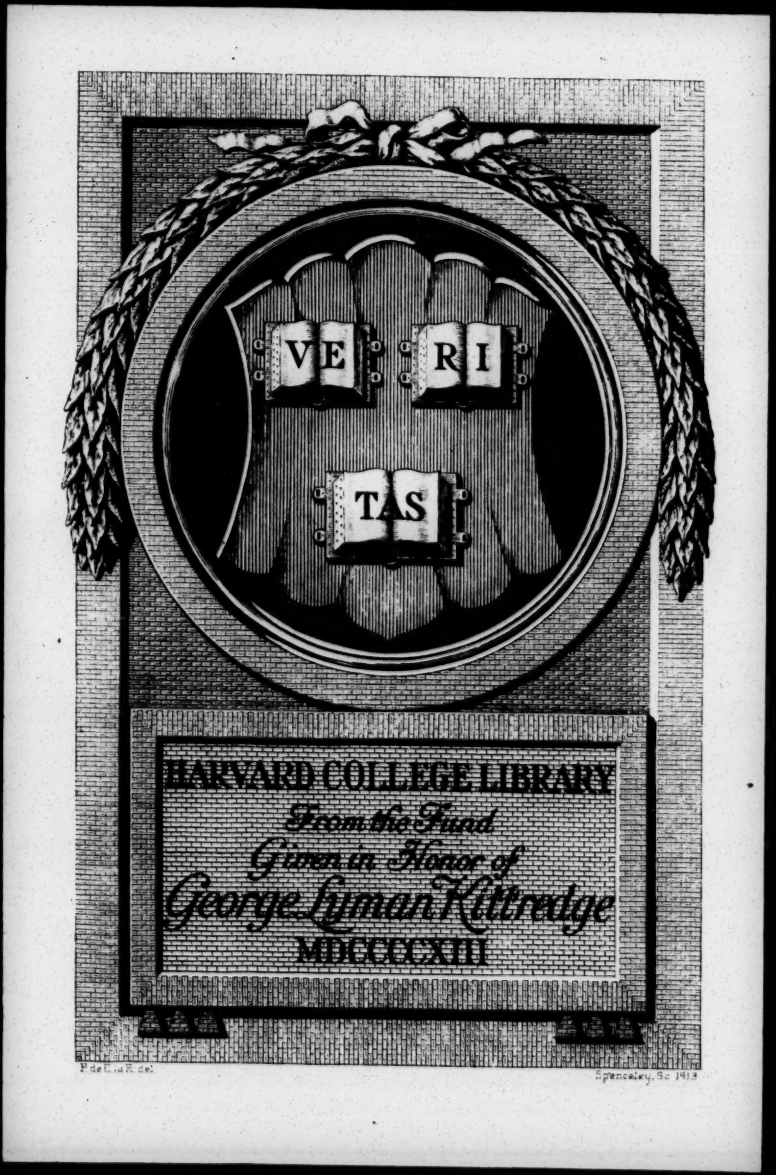
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